

Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:FWISNER

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S - MR. COLLUMS

S/S-MR. SEBASTIAN

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O 041911Z AUG 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 193010

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 5364 ACTION SECSTATE 4 AUG 76

QUOTE

S E C R E T JIDDA 5364

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: JOSHUA MKOMO'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) ROME 12495, (B) STATE 191621, (C) STATE 190448

1. ON MORNING AUGUST 3 I DISCUSSED NKOMO VISIT (FOR THIRD TIME) WITH FOREIGN OFFICE UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS MANSOURI (I HAD PREVIOUSLY SENT HIM BACKGROUND MATERIAL PROVIDED REFTEL C). I INFORMED MANSOURI THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO BE AS HELPFUL AS WE COULD IN FACILITATING THE NKOMO VISIT BUT THAT MR. NKOMO DESIRES THAT WE REMAIN IN THE BACKGROUND. IN ANY CASE, THERE ARE SOME THINGS WE

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CANNOT DO TO EASE THE VISIT. FIRSTLY, THE NKOMO PARTY NEEDS

VISAS WHICH THE SAUDI EMBASSY IN ROME HAS YET TO
ISSUE. MANSOURI SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NO INQUIRY FROM
SAUDI EMBASSY ROME CONCERNING THE MATTER.

2. I INFORMED MANSOURI THAT SECONDLY WE WOULD NOT BE MEETING
MR. NKOMO AT AIRPORTS(AT HIS REQUEST) AND BECAUSE OF TIGHT
HOTEL SITUATION WE COULD NOT FIND APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS
WITHOUT SAG INTERVENTION. WOULD THE SAG ASSIST THE NKOMO
PARTY?

3. LASTLY, AND MOST IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IS THE QUESTION OF A
CALL ON KING KHALID -- THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE VISIT. CAN
THIS BE ARRANGED? MANSOURI, WHO HAD NOT YET HAD TIME TO
DIGEST OUR BACKGROUND PAPER, SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE
MATTER IMMEDIATELY.

4. I FULLY CONCUR WITH THE ADVICE CONTAINED REFTEL B THAT NKOMO
PARTY NOT RPT NOT COME TO SAUDI ARABIA WUTHOUT VISAS OR SOME
PRIOR ASSURANCE OF OFFICIAL SAG WELCOME. I HAVE JUST BEEN
IN TOUCH WITH MANSOURI (1100 LOCAL AUGUST 4).
HE HAD NOTHING NEW TO TELL ME. I INFORMED HIM THAT AS FAR AS
WE KNEW THE GROUP WAS ADHERING TO ITS SCHEDULE AND WOULD BE
ARRIVING TONIGHT ON AIR FRANCE AT 2055. I SAID WE HAD GIVEN
NKOMO PARTY THE ADVICE THAT THEY NOT COME TO SAUDI ARABIA
WITHOUT VISAS. HE SAID, "ABSOLUTELY, THEY SHOULD HAVE VISAS."
WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

5. SUGGEST DEPT PASS TO EMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATELY.
PORTER
UNQUOTE
HABIB

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